



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National
Historical Park

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Independence National Historical Park

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For Immediate Release
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National Park Service Offers Free Public Programs in Germantown

British Commander General Howe Returns to Historic Germantown
Germantown White House, 5442 Germantown Avenue
10am – 3pm, Saturday, October 3rd

The Women of President Washington's Household
Germantown Historical Society, 5501 Germantown Avenue
2 pm, Saturday, October 17th

On **Saturday, October 3, 10 am – 3 pm**, the Germantown White House (formerly the Deshler-Morris House) will feature British Commander General Howe during the annual *Revolutionary Germantown Festival* commemorating the Battle of Germantown. General Howe was Commander of all British forces in North America at the time of the Battle of Germantown in 1777 and he used the house as his temporary headquarters after the battle. For more information on the Revolutionary Germantown Festival, visit www.revolutionarygermantown.org.

On **Saturday, October 17, 2 pm**, join Independence National Historical Park's Chief of Interpretation Stephen Sitarski for a glimpse into daily life with President Washington from the perspective of three women of the Germantown White House. First Lady Martha Washington, granddaughter Nellie Park Custis, and enslaved African Oney Judge provide 3 very different views of our first president. Guided tours of the new exhibits, which feature these women, and the newly restored Germantown White House are available before and after the 30 minute talk.


From **October 1 - November 2**, the original copy of the 1777 First City Troop discharge paper signed by General George Washington will be on temporary display in the Germantown White House exhibits.

The Germantown White House reopened in July 2009 after a year and a half closure for major repairs. The site now features new exhibits that tell the story of Battle of Germantown, the First Family and the entire household, including enslaved Africans. In October 1793, the President found refuge in Germantown during the Yellow Fever epidemic in Philadelphia and

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held four cabinet meetings there. The next summer, the house provided a welcome retreat for the First Family and household near Philadelphia, then the Capital of the United States.

The site is located at 5442 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144 (near Schoolhouse Lane). The site's normal business hours are Wednesday through Sunday, noon until 4 pm. On October 3, the site will open at 10 am and close at 4 pm. Admission is free. Call 215-597-7130 for more information or visit www.nps.gov/demo.

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